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Letter dated 3 April 2001 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of the Democratic Republic of the Congo to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

My Government is in receipt of information concerning the announcement by the Government of the Republic of Burundi of the withdrawal of three of its battalions from the towns of Pweto and Kalemie, both situated in the province of Katanga.

My Government takes this opportunity to remind the Security Council of the numerous occasions since August 1998 on which it has transmitted information about the armed aggression by the combined forces of Burundi, Uganda and Rwanda against the Democratic Republic of the Congo.

This announcement of the withdrawal of elements of the regular army of Burundi is, despite their frequent denials, a clear admission by the authorities of that State of their deep involvement in this vast enterprise of destabilization of the Democratic Republic of the Congo. It also urgently raises the question of the value that the international community should place on the word of the authorities of Burundi.

My Government urges the Security Council to call upon Burundi, which is not a party to the Lusaka Agreement (S/1999/815, annex), to withdraw immediately and without delay its remaining troops stationed in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, and in particular those based at Fizi and Uvira.

My Government also takes this opportunity to request that the Security Council demand from all the parties to the conflict strict compliance with Council resolution 1341 (2001) of 22 February 2001, and in particular paragraphs 1, 2, 3, 6, and 7 to 14 thereof, which marks an important phase of efforts to accelerate the peace process in the Democratic Republic of the Congo and to restore the lasting peace for which all Congolese yearn.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Ileka **Atoki**
Minister Counsellor
Chargé d'affaires a.i.

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